**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS** 

FROM:

Climate Change Working Group

DATE:

September 25, 2007

SUBJECT: Climate Protection – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report and Recommended

**Next Steps** 

# SPECIFIC REQUEST(S) OR RECOMMENDATION(S) & BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

## **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Dr. Wendel Brunner, HSD-Public Health

D:\Climate Change\BO\_Climate-Sept2007\_Final2BoS.doc

Mike Lango, General Services Department (GSD)

Maurice Shiu, Public Works Department (PWD) Jason Crapo, County Administrators Office (CAO)

- 1. ACCEPT the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report prepared on behalf of the Climate Change Working Group (CCWG), which quantifies existing greenhouse gas emissions generated countywide and identifies what portion is generated from our municipal operations. (Attachment A)
- 2. APPROVE Resolution 2007/54/ to adopt the U.S. Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration pledging that the County will take immediate steps to help the federal, state, and local governments within our county achieve the 2050 climate stabilization goal of 80% reduction of current GHG emissions. (Attachment B)
- 3. AUTHORIZE the Community Development Department to retain a temporary full-time Administrative Intern for 6-12 months to develop a Municipal Climate Action Plan including identification of potential emissions reduction and implementation cost for each proposed measure.
- 4. ACKNOWLEDGE that the County Administrator has requested the CCWG Departments to continue to absorb the costs of the climate protection program through the end of the current fiscal year.
- 5. REQUEST Supervisors Susan A. Bonilla, Federal D. Glover and Gayle B. Uilkema, as the Board's Representatives on the Mayors' Conference City/County Relations Committee, to enlist the cities participation in a multi-jurisdictional approach involving establishment of a regional Climate Action Plan to reduce county geographical GHG emissions to 80% below current levels by 2050.
- 6. DESIGNATE a Board of Supervisors Representative or an Ad Hoc Committee to advocate the adoption and implementation of reduction measures that target significant non-municipal sources of GHG emissions that fall under the jurisdiction or authority of regional, state and federal agencies (e.g. adopt legislation/regulations, establish cross-jurisdictional funding & incentive programs, increase fuel efficiency standards, etc.).

state and federal agencies (e.g. adopt legislation/regulations, establish cross-jurisdictional funding & incentive programs, increase fuel efficiency standards, etc.).	
CONTINUED ON ATTACHMENT:   ✓ YES   ✓ NO S	SIGNATURE Desneys / Barry
RECOMMENDATION OF COUNTY ADMINISTRATORRECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEEAPPROVEOTHER	
SIGNATURE(S): Julie Grea	
ACTION OF BOARD ON Ord 2 2007 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER X)  Addendam Attached	
VOTE OF SUPERVISORS UNANIMOUS (ABSENT:) AYES:NOES:	I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF AN ACTION TAKEN AND ENTERED ON THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ON THE DATE SHOWN.
ABSENT: ABSTAIN: Contact: Deidra Dingman (925-335-1224) cc: Ed Meyer, Agricultural Commissioner Carlos Baltadano, Building Inspection Department (BID) Dennis Barry, Community Development Department (CDD) Dr. Bill Walker, Health Services Department (HSD)	ATTESTED OLLUNG A DOT  JOHN CULLEN, CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

BY June Make

Climate Protection – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report and Recommended Next Steps September 25, 2007 Page 2 of 4

#### **FISCAL IMPACT**

To date, the costs associated with County staff time spent on climate protection have been funded within the existing budgets of the six departments represented on the CCWG. The next phase of recommended climate protection work, development of a Climate Action Plan with reduction measures targeting municipal greenhouse gas emissions, involves extensive research and detailed analysis that will require dedicated staffing resources. If Recommendation # 3 is approved, dedicated funding in the amount of \$54,000 will be needed to retain an Administrative Intern. The County Administrator's Office has requested the six departments represented on the CCWG to absorb the costs of the climate protection program through the end of the current fiscal year. Retaining an Administrative Intern is expected to cost \$24,000 during this fiscal year. As a result, the departments may be unable to perform other services due to funding (\$4,000 per department) being reallocated to the climate protection activities. In addition to the responsibilities outlined on page 3 of this Board Order, this Administrative Intern could provide valuable assistance seeking additional potential funding sources that could be used to implement additional greenhouse gas reduction measures.

#### **BACKGROUND/REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

The County Board of Supervisors originally formed the Climate Change Working Group in May 2005. The County's Climate Change Working Group is comprised of the Agricultural Commissioner and the Directors of the Building Inspection Department, Community Development Department, General Services Department, Health Services Department and Public Works Department. Background regarding the County's climate protection efforts, including previous Board Orders, is available on the County's website (to go directly to that web page visit <a href="https://www.cccrecycle.org/climate">www.cccrecycle.org/climate</a>).

On November 15, 2005, the Board accepted the "Contra Costa County Climate Protection Report" dated November 2005 which lists measures that have been partially or fully implemented by the County that potentially reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. This Report also contains a listing of measures/actions the County could consider implementing or expanding upon to reduce GHG emissions generated directly as a result of County operations (including County owned or maintained buildings, vehicles and right-of-way) or generated by sources within the private sector which potentially fall within the County's authority. (Attachment C)

On November 14, 2006, the Board authorized the Climate Change Working Group to join ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability (formerly known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) Cities for Climate Protection (CCP) Campaign to build upon the County's climate protection efforts. ICLEI is an international membership association of local governments dedicated to addressing environmental problems through local actions. ICLEI works with local governments to help them reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and therefore their impact on global climate change. Local governments begin participating in the CCP Campaign by passing a resolution pledging to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their municipal operations and throughout their communities. The process is not linear and consists of working through five CCP Milestones:

- 1. Conduct a local inventory and forecast of greenhouse gas emissions
- 2. Establish greenhouse gas reduction targets
- 3. Draft an action plan to achieve the greenhouse gas reduction targets
- 4. Implement the climate action plan
- 5. Evaluate & report on progress

In February 2007, the Board authorized the Climate Change Working Group to conduct greenhouse gas emissions inventory using a part-time intern funded by County Health Services Department - Hazardous Materials Division. By conducting the emissions inventory (first CCP Milestone) the County was able to quantify existing emissions and forecast anticipated future emissions from the overall community (countywide) and municipal operations. This inventory can serve as our baseline for comparison purposes to see how local emissions change over time. The baseline inventory

### BACKGROUND/REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (cont.)

can also be helpful when setting an emissions reduction target (second CCP Milestone) and measuring future progress (fifth CCP Milestone).

The baseline inventory has recently been completed and the results are included in the Contra Costa County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report (Attachment A). If accepted by the Board as recommended, the County will have completed the first CCP Milestone. The Inventory Report also includes some information regarding setting an emissions reduction target and suggests:

- Contra Costa County's recent baseline year (2006) should be considered in target-setting, as Contra Costa County's target may be lower due to reductions already achieved from existing measures implemented prior to the 2006 baseline year.
- Considering the existing quantity and sources of countywide GHG emissions in Contra Costa, it has become clear that the County will not be able to achieve substantial long-term countywide emissions reductions solely by implementing measures that fall within the County's existing authority and jurisdiction.

Leading scientists have projected that stabilization of climate change in time to minimize such impacts will require a reduction of global warming emissions to 80% below current levels by the year 2050. By adopting the U.S. Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration Resolution (Attachment B), the Board would also approve regional greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. This declaration calls for the County to work closely with local, state, and federal governments and other leaders to develop a regional plan to reduce county geographical GHG emissions to 80% below current levels by 2050. Additionally, the declaration states that the regional plan should establish short-, mid-, and long-term GHG reduction targets, with recommended goals to stop increasing emissions by 2010, and to achieve a 10 percent reduction every five years thereafter through to 2050. If the recommended Resolution is approved by the Board, the County will have completed the second CCP Milestone.

The third milestone in the CCP process is the development of a Climate Action Plan; notably this is also the next step within the framework of the US Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration. A Climate Action Plan represents the local blueprint for climate protection, which should include the set of programs and policies the jurisdiction will implement in order to achieve its chosen emissions reduction targets. The Climate Action Plan should include existing initiatives implemented, as well as potential new policies and programs that, when fully implemented, will help meet the chosen emissions reduction targets.

We recommend that the Climate Action Plan be developed in two separate phases, the first would be focused on further reducing the County's municipal GHG emissions and the second would be focused on communitywide emissions. While countywide reduction measures may result in greater overall GHG reductions, the County government has greater control over its municipal emissions. The County should take this opportunity to really lead by example and inspire changes in the greater community by developing and implementing a Municipal Climate Action Plan.

As indicated in the Climate Change Working Group's Board Order dated November 14, 2006, dedicated funding will be critical to support the development of a Climate Action Plan. The six departments represented on the CCWG have been asked to absorb costs related to climate protection for the remainder of this fiscal year. Retaining an Administrative Intern is expected to cost \$54,000 (\$24,000 during this fiscal year). Additional funding will need to be allocated for FY 2008-2009 to fund the development and implementation of a Climate Action Plan, including the remainder of the cost for the Administrative Intern. If an Administrative Intern is retained to manage this next phase of the County's climate protection effort, their responsibilities would include:

- 1. Identifying which activity reduction data (energy use, waste or vehicular travel) for existing and potential measures can actually be derived or estimated;
- 2. Identifying the implementation cost associated with each measure (where it is available) in order to model reduction potential and indicate whether there is adequate funding to implement each measure:
- 3. Developing a Municipal Climate Action Plan focused on reduction measures that target emissions generated by municipal operations, including identification of potential funding shortfall and any potential funding sources; and
- 4. Seeking opportunities to work with local cities to develop and implement a Countywide Climate Action Plan focused on reduction measures that target non-municipal sources of GHG emissions (e.g. land use, private buildings, transportation, private-sector waste, etc.), such as participating in

Climate Protection – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report and Recommended Next Steps September 25, 2007 Page 4 of 4

### **BACKGROUND/REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (cont.)**

the "Contra Costa County Climate Protection Project" recently launched by ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability; and

5. Seeking opportunities to engage regional, state and federal agencies to advocate adoption and implementation of reduction measures that target significant non-municipal sources of GHG emissions that fall outside of the County's existing jurisdiction or authority (e.g. adopt legislation/ regulations, establish cross-jurisdictional funding & incentive programs, increase fuel efficiency standards, etc.).

ICLEI received a one time grant to launch the Contra Costa County Climate Protection Project to provide assistance to local governments within Contra Costa County. On August 28, 2007, ICLEI held a kick-off meeting in Walnut Creek to announce the initiation of this 11-month Project. Cities were informed that they must become ICLEI members to receive assistance under this Project. Along with Contra Costa County, the following local cities have already joined ICLEI and are preparing to initiate their inventories: El Cerrito, Hercules, Lafayette, Martinez, Moraga, Pinole, Richmond and Walnut Creek. Other cities indicated potential interest in joining ICLEI at the recent Kick-off Event. Below is ICLEI's timeline for the five phases of this Project:

- Phase 1 Kickoff Meeting August 29th (done)
- Phase 2 Community Level Inventory (October) ICLEI is now gathering all communitywide data for emissions generated with the city boundaries so that each ICLEI member city will have their own completed communitywide GHG emissions inventory
- Phase 3 Ongoing ICLEI Training & Support for the software and the inventory (November-June 2008)
- Phase 4 Action Planning Workshop (January 2008) to assist cities/County in setting emissions reduction targets and developing a plan to reach these goals.
- Phase 5 Wrap Up Meeting (June 2008)

The County Contra Costa County Climate Protection Project should provide a good opportunity for the County and local cities to share information regarding the status of climate protection efforts. Although the County has already completed our communitywide inventory (includes emissions generated from within the incorporated and unincorporated areas), it would be beneficial to obtain results of the communitywide emissions inventory for each city to identify what proportion of the County's communitywide emissions are being generated from the incorporated areas. This information would be particularly valuable to the County if funding is allocated in the future to develop a Communitywide Climate Action Plan (second Climate Action Plan phase). This Project can also serve as a forum for a dialogue between County and local cities regarding taking a more regional approach and encourage development and implementation of a Countywide Climate Action Plan focused on reduction measures that target non-municipal sources of GHG emissions (e.g. land use, private buildings, transportation, private-sector waste, etc.).

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Contra Costa County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report August 2007
- B. Resolution US Cool Counties Climate Stabilization Declaration
- C. Contra Costa County Climate Protection Report November 2005

D:\Climate Change\BO\_Climate-Sept2007\_Final2BoS.doc

# Addendum D.2 October 2, 2007 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report

Deidre Dingman, Community Development Department (CDD), presented the staff report.

Dennis Barry, Community Development Department Director, said that since the writing of the report, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has announced a new grant program for greenhouse gas emission reduction activities. He requested authorization for CDD to apply for a planning grant.

Chair Piepho suggested making the authorization less specific so that it could encompass grants that may become available from any source of funding for this type of program, especially given the frequently short application time frames.

Supervisor Uilkema suggested designating the Board's Internal Operations Committee to advocate for the adoption and implementation of reduction measures in regard to non-municipal sources. Supervisors Gioia and Piepho suggested that the Transportation, Water & Infrastructure Committee might be the more appropriate committee to which to refer the matter.

Supervisor Bonilla noted that the City/County Relations Committee had decided not to meet in 2007.

Mr. Barry suggested as an alternative the matter be brought to the Mayor's Conference.

Supervisor Bonilla suggested it would also be appropriate to place it on the 2008 calendar of the City/County Relations Committee for discussion.

Supervisor Gioia said the BAAQMD has an established group working on climate change, and suggested that someone from that work group be included at the Mayor's Conference meeting.

Deidre Dingman offered to work with the group to coordinate schedules.

By unanimous vote, with Supervisor Glover absent, the Board of Supervisors:

ADOPTED recommendations 1–4 as presented; DIRECTED the Community Development Department to coordinate with the Mayors' Conference to enlist regional participation in a multi-jurisdictional approach involving establishment of a regional Climate Action Plan; DESIGNATED the Transportation, Water & Infrastructure Committee to advocate for the adoption and implementation of reduction measures that target significant non-municipal sources of greenhouse gas emissions that fall under the jurisdiction or authority of regional, state and federal agencies; and AUTHORIZED the Community Development Department Director, or designee, to apply for and accept available grants for greenhouse gas reduction activities.

\* \* \* \* \*